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AGAWAM

Advertiser News

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INSIDE

Calendar	19
Business	8
Education	7
Public Safety	6
Sports	12
Classifieds.....	16

20 PAGES



Agawam
Football 12

A TURLEY PUBLICATION

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Water pipe work to slice across town

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications
Correspondent

Right on the heels of one water project, a second project has started in the Feeding Hills area with the same contractor installing a new pipeline for the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission.

The work, which has already interrupted traffic on North Westfield Street and North West Street, will mean road closures in the coming weeks on a succession of Feeding Hills and Agawam roads from one end of town to the other.

Baltazar Construction, a Ludlow-based contractor, will be installing a six-mile-long water transmission

pipeline that leads from the Provin Mountain Reservoir all the way to the rotary at Routes 5, 57 and the South End Bridge, where it connects to Springfield's municipal water system. Springfield owns the pipe through Agawam; the town purchases its drinking water from Springfield Water and Sewer.

The project started in Septem-

ber, Agawam Public Works Deputy Superintendent John Decker said, and much of the work now will be taking place on North West Street, a quiet residential neighborhood. Work has also already occurred on North Westfield Street, where Baltazar recently completed a water pipeline project for Agawam.

According to Springfield Water

and Sewer Commission spokesperson Joyce Mulvaney, the transmission pipeline project was conceived in 2010 after a study showed corrosion in the existing pipeline. The pipeline was built in 1928.

During the period of construction, there will be no disruption of

Please see WATER, page 15

CLAUS FOR THE SEASON



Turley Publications photo by Kimberly Hatch

Samantha Machos, 7, poses for a picture with Santa Claus at the Knights of Columbus' "Breakfast with Santa," held Sunday at St. John's Parish Center in Agawam. More photos on pages 10-11.

Legislators opposing local aid cuts

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Correspondent

As the Agawam City Council considers a resolution opposing any reduction in state aid, legislators say Gov. Deval Patrick's planned "9C" cuts are unlikely to happen.

Despite what Patrick says is a potential \$325 million budget shortfall due to lower revenue expectations, state Senate President Therese Murray and House Speaker Robert DeLeo, both Democrats, said they would not support any cuts to local aid or any funding that goes to cities and towns.

State Rep. Nicholas Boldyga, R-Southwick, and state Sen. Donald Humason, R-Westfield, both said they will oppose 9C cuts for local aid, and said Patrick will not likely get those cuts through the House and Senate.

"According to the law, cuts to local aid cannot be made under 9C without the approval of the Legislature," Humason said.

Boldyga said without knowing the full intentions of his colleagues in the house, the public statements made by DeLeo and Murray echo his own opinions about cuts in local aid.

"We need to find other areas to make budget cuts," said Boldyga. "We cannot keep making cuts to local aid. Cities and towns deserve to have this money come back to them."

Please see AID CUTS, page 14

Common Core, PARCC spur school controversy

Parent group says national curriculum hurts learning

By Mike Lydick
Turley Publications
Correspondent

Parents troubled by Agawam schools using the Common Core expressed their concerns about the curriculum at the School Committee's Nov. 25 meeting.

Michelle Labonte-Veras, one of three parents who spoke during the citizens speak portion of the meeting, said parents don't see the benefit of the Common Core.

"We're seeing our children struggle and the anxiety and stress that are being caused," Labonte-Veras said.

She said there is also a lack of transparency — tests are a "mystery" to parents.

"We know it's going on," she said, "but the schools don't share with us what's being administered, what the results of the tests are, and how the results of the tests are



Turley Publications photo by Mike Lydick

Speaking at the Nov. 25 school committee meeting, Michelle Labonte-Veras said a recently formed parents group — Agawam Parents for Children First — wants state legislators to understand that the Common Core is flawed and should be eliminated.

being used."

The school administration agreed to set up forums to help parents understand the tests, but at this point, said Labonte-Veras,

"The average parent doesn't know what's going on."

Labonte-Veras said kids are now reading "to take a test," not

Please see CORE, page 15

Officials spar over change in tests

By Mike Lydick
Turley Publications
Correspondent

An update on a proposed new testing program rekindled School Committee concerns about testing and led to a heated debate at one point during its Nov. 25 meeting.

Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers is a new-generation assessment program that the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is developing as a replacement for the 20 year-old MCAS, or Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System. PARCC is designed to align with the new nationwide Common Core curriculum.

But PARCC has been a contentious issue with the School Committee since the Department of Education announced last spring that districts had to decide by June

30 of this year to continue with MCAS for one more year or start using PARCC.

A public hearing prior to a June vote on PARCC brought out many Agawam parents, an overwhelming majority of whom said they opposed PARCC. The committee opposed switching to PARCC, voting 6 to 1 to retain MCAS.

The committee's frustrations and concerns about PARCC resurfaced at the November meeting when Assistant Superintendent Alison LeClair brought up PARCC during a presentation about the latest MCAS results. When committee member Anthony Bonavita questioned why she was giving a "sales pitch" for PARCC, LeClair responded that she wasn't.

Please see TESTS, page 15





Judges Maria Genshimer and Thomas Kane rate the 41 moustache entries.



Turley Publications photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Fire Chief Alan Sirois, sporting a rare moustache, raises the hand of moustache contest winner Red Ferrier.

Moustache contest nets funds for American Cancer Society

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Correspondent

Forty-one moustachioed firemen competed for the opportunity to win the "best moustache" in a contest held during the last month by the Agawam Fire Department to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

So many different looks were shown, but in the end, it was Red Ferrier who grew a 'stache named the "Dictator."

Between the 41 firemen and donations collected on Monday night at Murphy's Pub, the Fire Department raised more than \$1,000 for the American Cancer Society.

Fire Chief Alan Sirois, who has been clean-shaven for most of his life, said the fire departments in the area all recognize the importance of fighting cancer and the impor-

tance of raising awareness.

"As firefighters, we are exposed to a lot of harmful things when responding to fires that can cause cancer," said Sirois. "All of us have lost friends and colleagues in the past from cancer because of exposure to the job."

Deputy Chief B.J. Calvi says he lost many friends who were firefighters to cancer. Calvi normally sports a definitive moustache. But to participate in the contest, Calvi did something he never normally does: He shaved his face clean.

"It was for a great cause," said Calvi. "I lost a couple of close friends and I wanted to be a part of it."

Calvi is now sporting his trademark moustache, which he is glad to have back.

Another firefighter, James Kalbaugh, said he also lost some close friends to cancer from exposure on the job. He said raising the

money through growing a moustache was a great idea.

"I was really happy to do this with all my fellow firefighters," said Kalbaugh. "I'm normally clean-shaven so this was different for me."

Each firefighter paid a \$20 fee to enter the contest. The rules were very strict. On Nov. 1, participating firefighters, facial hair or not, had their photographs taken. On Nov. 30, the participants once again had their photographs taken in preparation for Monday night's judging at Murphy Pub.

Sirois brought in a panel of judges that included hair stylist Maria Genshimer and moustache aficionado Thomas Kane. One by one, the before-and-after pictures were revealed on a large screen. Many of the participating firefighters made their way out to Murphy's to find out who would win.

After 41 entries, it came down to Ferrier, Mike Defilipi and Corey Ducharme. Defilipi was the second runner-up, while Ducharme placed second in the contest. Moustaches were judged on creativity, neatness and quality, and overall moustache greatness. November is known as "Movember," with many people and organizations growing moustaches to raise awareness for many different forms of cancer. Sirois said firefighters were known at one time for their moustaches, making the contest an appropriate way for his department to support the cause.

For winning, Ferrier received a \$100 prize from Sirois. Several of the firefighters who participated immediately shaved their moustaches off. Sirois joked it was due to pressure from spouses or significant others.

'Luck O' the Irish' offered as gift

The Agawam St. Patrick's Committee is accepting reservations for its "Driveway Shamrock," just in time to give it as a Christmas gift. To have a shamrock painted next spring, send a check for \$25 to the Agawam St. Patrick's Committee, P.O. Box 825, Agawam, MA 01001. Include email address and phone number and you will be contacted.



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New twists added to Cyclone coaster

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications Correspondent

Since the ride closed in late July, crews have been hard at work at Six Flags New England modifying the former Cyclone ride.

On Nov. 24, Six Flags gave a first look at the new hybrid wooden and steel roller coaster, which will be known as the Wicked Cyclone. Guests of the park will enjoy the same wooden roller coaster look while experiencing the speed and feel of the steel track.

Communications Director Jennifer McGrath gave a media hard hat tour of the current reconstruction, which is in its second phase.

"Due to the magnitude of this project, we are projecting it will open sometime next summer," partway through the amusement park's season, said McGrath.

McGrath showed how the foundation of the ride and much of the structure are remaining the same. Six Flags Corporate Engineer Mike Neuzil said a lot of planning went into the hybrid coaster.

"We needed to do a lot of work if we were going to use the existing foundation," said Neuzil. "The main thing is to be able to use the existing footprint of the track and reinforcing it."

Using the existing track, some steel has been installed on top of the wooden foundation, creating some different twists and turns, as well as a 78-degree drop on the initial fall, McGrath said.

A 12- to 15-person crew has been working on the coaster on a regular basis. McGrath says the crew and park officials are pleased with the progress that has been made. With the foundation already secured, work is scheduled to continue through the winter.

"Obviously, snow and high winds will slow down the work at times," said McGrath. "But the crew normally works six days a week and we usually have the crew split into multiple teams working on different aspects of the ride."

McGrath said guests and motorists going by the park will see a slightly different-looking roller coaster near the top, but the same familiar white wood foundation they have been used to since the ride was built in 1983. The new steel track has been painted orange. McGrath said the park will have some type of theme to the new roller coaster. She did not hint at the theme, but says it will be revealed sometime in February.

"It will be something that has not been seen before," said McGrath.



Turley Publications photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

Steel track is being installed on the Wicked Cyclone ride at Six Flags. The former Cyclone ride is being transformed into a hybrid wooden and steel roller coaster. The first drop will now be a 78-degree dive.

Dave Jenks, the facilities manager at Six Flags, says the crew has been doing an amazing job.

"They are working with a structure that was built in the 1980s," said Jenks. "Standards have changed since then and we have to adjust to that."

Jenks says the wooden foundation is in excellent shape thanks to proper maintenance over the years.

"We go through the entire structure on a regular basis," said Jenks. "We replace boards that are rotted as soon as we find them."

McGrath said the ride will still mount and dismount in the same location. There are only five hybrid roller coasters in the world. This will be the first one on the East Coast.

Humason wants Gruber dismissed

By Michael J. Ballway
Turley Publications Staff Writer

BOSTON — State Sen. Donald Humason Jr. and other Republican Senators on Monday called for Gov. Deval Patrick to dismiss Jonathan Gruber from the state Health Connector Board.

Gruber, a professor at MIT, gained national attention last month when a recording surfaced containing statements he made about the federal Affordable Care Act, also known as "Obamacare." In the recording, Gruber appears to say that the "lack of transparency [was] a huge political advantage" in passing the federal law, and the "stupidity of the American voter ... was really, really critical for the thing to pass."

In a letter to the governor, the Massachusetts Senate Republican Caucus asked that Gruber resign or be removed from the board of the state Health Connector — a component of the health care mandate in the Affordable Care Act and the Massachusetts state law that preceded it — and that the state "sever any contractual obligations with him."

"Professor Gruber's comments are not only in direct opposition to those of us who seek to expand public trust in government," the letter said. "They call into question his ability to act impartially and in a manner that upholds the integrity of the Health Connector Board. Professor Gruber's advocacy for an ideology founded in deceit has no place in our government."

The governor's press secretary, Heather Johnson, said Tuesday that the Patrick administration "is squarely focused on ensuring we continue to meet the goal of ACA implementation: successfully getting our residents covered."

The administration believes that the governor cannot legally remove a board member for comments such as Gruber's. In a 2002 case, for example, the state Supreme Judicial Court stopped acting Gov. Jane Swift from firing Jordan Levy and Christy Mihos from the Turnpike Authority because there was no "substantial evidence" of "malfeasance, misfeasance or willful neglect of duty." The court specifically ruled in that case that a state board member could not be removed for "an honest dispute over policy."

The letter calling for Gruber's dismissal was signed by Humason, who represents Agawam and 10 other towns, along with the three other current Republican members of the Senate: Robert Hedlund, Richard Ross and Minority Leader Bruce Tarr. The state Senate has 40 members.

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Opinion

Why fix what is working?

See if this passes the critical reading and reasoning test:

The United States of America, which has 50 separate state departments of education and thousands of local superintendents and school boards, asks itself what enables certain states to do a better job than others. It determines that Massachusetts, one of the highest performing states at public education, should serve as a model, and in its new "Common Core," the federal government tries to emulate Massachusetts' assessments and curriculum. MCAS tests and the state curriculum frameworks are held up as an example of what the nation should hope to achieve on a wider scale.

Then the feds turn around and ask Massachusetts — an acknowledged leader in public education — to ditch its proven system and adopt the brand-new, as-yet-untried "Common Core."

As understandable as it is that citizens of other states may welcome Common Core as a means of emulating Massachusetts, it's just as understandable that some Agawam parents and school officials are resisting Common Core and the PARCC test for the same reason: Massachusetts already has a system that works. Why change it?

At the Nov. 25 School Committee meeting, member Anthony Bonavita called PARCC an unfunded mandate, noting that the change in tests — which Agawam has put off for at least a year — carries with it a real cost in retraining teachers, rewriting local lesson plans and communicating these changes to students and parents.

Members of Agawam Parents for Children First, at that same meeting, complained that PARCC and Common Core are causing teachers to focus more on data collection and test preparation than the craft of teaching and personalized instruction.

Students, parents, teachers and administrators offered many of the same criticisms when MCAS and the state frameworks were first introduced in the 1990s. And there is truth in the notion that any "high-stakes" standardized test, and any test-oriented standardized curriculum — whether district-wide, statewide or nationwide — creates more paperwork and takes away from creative instruction time. It is also true that the frameworks themselves have hardly been paragons of constancy, as state officials seem to revise the curriculum every couple years, and districts have to retrain and rewrite local lessons to follow.

But now that families and educators are all used to MCAS and state frameworks, they are right to demand a good reason for discarding a familiar and effective system. Because of families that value education, well-trained teachers and administrators and politicians who prioritize schools when writing budgets — and, yes, because of MCAS and state frameworks — Massachusetts has top-quality public schools. Why would we want any of that to change?

Letters to the Editor must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and space. The deadline is Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. Please send letters to *Agawam Advertiser News*, Letters to the Editor, Attn: Teri Machia, 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030 or e-mail aan@turley.com.



Letters to the Editor

*Pee Wee players,
cheerleaders take top spots*

To the editor:

Congratulations to the Agawam Pee Wee Warriors football team on their win in this year's Pee Wee Super Bowl. This culminated a fantastic season where they only lost one game. The loss was against West Springfield, but they also beat West Side, so they were tied for the season. They won the Super Bowl over their rivals, West Springfield. My congratulations go out to the team, their coaches, parents, siblings and all the others who supported their terrific season.

My congratulations, also, to the Agawam Pee Wee Youth Cheerleaders, who won first place at a recent cheer competition. Congratulations to their coaches, parents, siblings and those who were there to cheer them on.

What a wonderful year for both teams. The time and dedication shown by these kids is the future of Agawam.

Dorothy Graveline
Agawam

*Why no coverage
of water main work?*

I have been a long time subscriber to the Agawam Advertiser and I just cannot understand why the local town paper never reported anything about what was going on with the Springfield water main project. I live on North Westfield Street and have been very inconvenienced several times with all this construction. Several of my neighbors and lo-

cal friends were trying to figure out what was going on.

Our street water main was completed several weeks ago and still we are seeing no end to all this construction.

The Springfield paper finally reported in today's paper about all of what is going on. What I can't understand is why a local paper like yours never mentioned a word about it.

I just received my copy of this week's Advertiser and still have not seen any mention of the construction going on in this part of town.

I would have thought that something of this magnitude would be worth reporting.

Alfred Riberdy
Feeding Hills

*St. Pat's Committee
looking for local support*

To the editor:

The Agawam St. Patrick's Committee has begun canvassing local businesses inviting you to be published in the 2015 Colleen's Coronation program booklet.

Proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to build a float for the Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade and provide a \$1,000 scholarship for the colleen.

The committee is thankful for past gifts and is hoping area businesses will continue to support the committee.

Agawam St. Patrick's Committee

Decisions and God's will

All of us make decisions. Some are made with full assurance of having found God's way. Other decisions are made with hesitation remaining open for adjustment or correction. Either way, others may disagree with the decisions we make. This is true for people from every walk of life, including business executives, politicians, homemakers, lawyers, educators, social workers, employees and employers. Some of these decisions affect our personal lives; others, our professional lives.

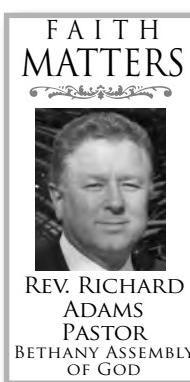
All of us should consider the exhortation from Paul, who was called to be an apostle, when he says in Romans 12:2, "Do not conform any longer to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is: His good, pleasing

and perfect will."

All of creation reveals God's will. He has made His will known not only through His written word, but in all of creation.

Mankind lost the capacity to interpret what creation says. God's word becomes the architect's written instructions to the builder who has forgotten how to read the blueprints. Unless the builder reads the instructions, he is at a loss; he is in the dark.

Paul seems to have this in mind when he writes to Timothy saying that in the last days there will come a demonic teaching that would prohibit the eating of certain kinds of food and changing the standards of what constitutes a marriage. Without faith, our decisions have no standard and simply conform to our own worldly pattern.



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PACK 77 DONATES FOOD



Submitted photo

Cub Scout Pack 77, chartered by St. John's Church, recently held a canned goods drive at its monthly pack meeting. Each Scout was invited to bring in a canned good or non-perishable food item for families in need. The food items are being donated to the Parish Cupboard, which provides support to families in Agawam, Feeding Hills and West Springfield. Pictured with a sampling of the pack's donations just prior to their delivery are first-year Webelos from Den 5: Dimitri Heinze, Carter Clark, Tyler Williams, Nicholas Powell, Dylan Walsh and Jacob Barber, as well as Den Leader and Pack Advancement Chair Jeff Heinze.

Agawam Library to display ACAA artwork

The Agawam Community Artists and Artisans will have an art show at the Agawam Public Library through Dec. 27. Artwork will be displayed on the upstairs gallery walls and in the glass display cases. The show will include paintings, photographs and gourds.

The ACAA meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. from September to June. The meetings are open to all

artists and friends and are hosted by Howie Safford, president.

Following a short meeting, there is an artist demonstration lasting approximately one hour. Members provide refreshments. The ACAA provides an opportunity for members to meet, learn and discuss a variety of art topics.

For more information about ACAA, contact Safford at 413-246-3513 or email howzer@comcast.net.

ARE YOU OLD NEWS?



Each week the Agawam Advertiser News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured. Email your answers by Monday at noon to mballway@turley.com.

Last week's photo: Correctly identifying Roger LeClerc were Lynn Wysocki Sullivan, Geraldine Schilling-Nordal and Lou Scherpa. A late submission correctly identifying John Burns in the Nov. 20 edition was received from Walt Willard.



Golden Agers to host Mohegan Sun trip

The Agawam Golden Agers Chapter Two will host a trip to Mohegan Sun Casino on Monday, Jan. 5. This trip is open to the public. The cost is \$25 per person and includes a \$15 meal voucher and two \$10 dollar Big Wheel bet coupons at the casino. Also included is a deluxe motor coach and driver gratuity.

The bus will leave from the Sacred Heart Church parking lot at 8 a.m. and return at 5:30 p.m. For more information or reservations, call Art Usher at 413-786-3567.

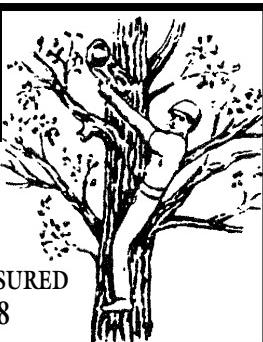
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Ideas sought for \$125K MGM casino payment

By Michael J. Ballway

Turley Publications Staff Writer

is divided up so everybody feels the benefit of it."

The money will be deposited in a special account apart from the town's general fund, Cohen said. Unlike the MGM payments to Longmeadow and West Springfield, which are earmarked for roadwork, there is no restriction on how the Agawam funds can be used.

Cohen said on Wednesday that he had not yet heard from MGM, but understood from press coverage that MGM would make its payments to Springfield-area municipalities — including the city itself and eight abutting municipalities — on Friday, Dec. 5.

MGM has already reimbursed the town for its legal fees in negotiating the surrounding community agreement. Cohen noted that MGM has also set aside \$100 million for additional mitigation payments in the region, and the agreement between Agawam and MGM includes one- and five-year "look-backs" where the town can assess how the casino has affected it and — with documentation — apply for additional reimbursement.

DANCE BENEFITS USO



Submitted photo

The GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club recently sponsored a dance to benefit the USO at which club members raised \$850. Pictured from left are club members Kathy Mouneimneh, Aileen Semarie, Rosalie Dialessi (dance chairwoman), Mary O'Connell (club co-president), Gloria King, Janine Iacolo and Alexis Simmons.

Cultural Council seeking new members

The Agawam Cultural Council will meet Tuesday, Dec. 9, at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. The meeting is open to the public.

A great opportunity exists with the Agawam Cultural Council for anyone with an interest in providing diverse cultural events for the town. This all-volunteer organiza-

tion, appointed by the mayor and funded, in part, by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, is looking for new members. The ACC is charged with bringing engaging, entertaining and educational events and opportunities in the arts, humanities and sciences to children and adults from Agawam and the surrounding communities.

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Public Safety

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 83 EMS calls and the following emergency response calls for the week from Nov. 24 to Dec. 1.

On Nov. 24 at 12:36 p.m., the department responded to South West Street for cooking fire, confined to container.

On Nov. 24 at 1:01 p.m., the department responded to Country Road to assist invalid.

On Nov. 24 at 2:50 p.m., the department responded to High Meadow Road for public service assistance, other.

On Nov. 24 at 5:17 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for alarm system activation, no fire – unintentional.

On Nov. 25 at 6:24 a.m., the department responded to Route 57 off ramp for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

On Nov. 25 at 2:34 p.m., the department responded to General Abrams Drive for electrical wiring / equipment problem, other.

On Nov. 25 at 8:01 p.m., the department responded to North Street, was dispatched and cancelled en route.

On Nov. 25 at 9:05 p.m., the department responded to North West Street for good intent call, other.

On Nov. 25 at 10:24 p.m., the department responded to North Westfield Street for lockout.

On Nov. 26 at 2:03 p.m., the department responded to Shibley Court, was dispatched and cancelled en route.

On Nov. 26 at 2:29 p.m., the department responded to South West Street for power line down.

On Nov. 26 at 5:49 p.m., the department responded to North Street for arcing, shorted electrical equipment.

On Nov. 26 at 8:40 p.m., the department responded to Hastings Street for service call, other.

On Nov. 27 at 12:41 a.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

On Nov. 27 at 12:45 p.m., the department responded to Taft Street to assist invalid.

On Nov. 27 at 8:43 p.m., the department responded to South Westfield Street for combustible / flammable gas / liquid condition, other.

On Nov. 28 at 11:46 a.m., the department responded to Oak Hill Avenue for lockout.

On Nov. 30 at 5:20 a.m., the department responded to Main Street for public service assistance, other.

On Nov. 30 at 7:47 p.m., the department responded to North Street for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

On Dec. 1 at 10:11 a.m., the department responded to Oak Lane to assist invalid.

On Dec. 1 at 12:32 p.m., the department responded to Alfred Court for CO detector activation due to malfunction.

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 330 calls for service from Nov. 24 to Dec. 1. The department made seven arrests. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Thursday, Nov. 27

Joshua Bailey, 22, of 84 Robin Ridge Drive, Feeding Hills, was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct.

Anthony Heffner, Jr., 23, of 84 Robin Ridge Drive, Feeding Hills, was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct.

Mark MacDonald, 52, of 23 Suffield St., Agawam, was arrested on a charge of assault and battery on a disabled person.

Nicole Herbele, 39, of 32 Colony Road, West Springfield, was arrested on a charge of possession of a Class E drug.

Friday, Nov. 28

Paul L. Earnest, Jr., 47, of 80 Columbia Drive, Feeding Hills, was arrested on a default warrant.

Scott W. Haapanen, 51, of 134 Channell Drive, Agawam, was arrested on a charge of possession of a Class B drug, and on a default warrant for failure to appear.

Saturday, Nov. 29

Brendan M. Kennan, 30, of 67 Metalark Road, Enfield, Conn., was arrested on a charge of assault and battery with serious bodily injury.

Holiday Bazaar at Community Grange

Community Grange 382 of Feeding Hills will hold a Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, Dec. 13, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Grange Hall, 47 N. West St. Members of the Grange have been busy making gift items, ornaments, wreaths and much more. The bake sale will be bigger than last year and will include homemade baked beans.

Paws-a-tively Delectable will be selling all-natural dog treats, bandanas and gift items along with Tastefully Simple, BlueDogs Craft and Decorative Painting by Peg Sullivan. All proceeds will benefit the building fund and the public is invited to attend. Snow date is Dec. 14. For more information, call Pauline at 413-789-2061.

AGAWAM ADVERTISER SEEKS MEETING CORRESPONDENT

The Agawam Advertiser News, a Turley Publication, covering Agawam and Feeding Hills, is seeking a freelance correspondent to cover municipal and school district meetings on a regular basis. Applicants should be familiar with town government and have good writing skills. A degree in communications, English or journalism is not required, but encouraged. The applicant should be available on nights. Position is paid per story. Please send cover letter, resume and writing samples to Editor Tim Kane at 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030 or tkane@turley.com. No phone calls or drop-ins please.

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The Agawam YMCA will host a bus trip to Mohegan Sun the third Monday of each month, with the exception of January. This month's trip is scheduled for Dec. 15. The bus will leave the YMCA parking lot at 8 a.m. Tickets are \$25 per person and include a \$15 meal ticket and two \$10 big wheel tickets. To reserve a seat, call Helen at 413-786-8685.

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In the Classroom



Turley Publications photos by Mike Lydick

AHS seniors Lauren Hartmann and Jordan Reed, recipients of a 2014 MASS Certificate of Academic Award, with AHS Principal Steve Leman-ski. The award is presented annually to two seniors who have achieved academic success.

High academic honor for top AHS seniors

By Mike Lydick

Turley Publications Correspondent

Lauren Hartmann and Jordan Reed have the distinction of being tied for the second highest ranking in the Class of 2015. Their AHS academic achievements — both have a 4.37 GPA — recently earned them a prestigious award.

Hartmann and Reed are recipients of a 2014 Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Certificate of Academic

Award that local superintendents presents to seniors who have achieved academic success.

In Agawam, two seniors who have distinguished themselves "in pursuit of academic excellence" are recognized with the annual award. Hartmann and Reed received their awards from Superintendent William Sappelli at the Nov. 25 School Committee meeting. Criteria for the award include students' three-year cumulative average of class rank-

Please see HONORS, page 14

School Committee Meeting

Roberta G. Doering School
68 Main Street
Tuesday, Dec. 9, 7 p.m.

1. Call to order
2. Moment of silence
3. Roll call of attendance
4. Regular meeting – 7 p.m.
5. Citizen's Speak Time
6. Highlights on Education:
 - a. Holiday concert by Phelps School and Robinson Park School students
 - b. Superintendent's Notes
 - c. Student Advisory Committee Representative update
7. Unfinished Business:
 - a. SCR-14-33, Designation of MASC as a representative for the purpose of selecting an arbitrator and receiving arbitration decisions
 - b. SCR-14-34, Acceptance of a \$1,000.00 Donation to the AJHS Special Education Programs from Armor Fire Technologies, Inc.
8. Business meeting:
 - a. Routine Matters
 - b. Approval of Minutes
 - c. Calendar/Correspondence
 - d. Warrants/Transfers
 - e. Reports:

- 1). Scheduled Reports:
 - Reading Recovery Update (paper report)
 - LPVEC Update – Executive Director A. Churchill
 - BHN Update – Katherine Moss
- 2) Subcommittee Updates
11. New Business: None
12. Policy Review:
 - a. Policy JH-F, Notification of Unexcused Student Absences Request for Action Plan Meeting, 2nd and 3rd readings
 - b. Policy IJOA-F, One-Day Field Trip Request Form, 2nd and 3rd readings
 - c. Policy IJOA-F1, Overnight Field Trip Request Form, 2nd and 3rd readings
 - d. Policy ADDA, Background Checks, 2nd and 3rd readings
 - e. Policy DJE, Bidding Requirements, 2nd and 3rd readings
 - f. Policy JJE, Student Fund-Raising Activities, 1st reading
 - g. Policy KHA, Public Solicitation in the Schools, 1st reading
 - h. Policy GCCD, Domestic Violence Leave Policy, 1st reading
 - i. Policy GCF-R, Hiring Policy – Support Staff, 1st reading
13. Any other items that may legally come before the committee
14. Adjournment

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GUTTERS

Agawam Schools' weekly lunch menu

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

The Agawam High School lunch menu is posted on the school's website.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, Dec. 8: Popcorn chicken with dipping sauce, steamed white rice, seasoned vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, Dec. 9: Whole-grain French toast sticks, baked potato rounds, turkey sausage links, diced peach cup, orange juice.

Wednesday, Dec. 10: Grilled ham and cheese on whole-wheat, tomato soup, whole-grain goldfish crackers, fresh fruit, Dole Fruit Push-Up.

Thursday, Dec. 11: French bread pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

Friday, Dec. 12: Turkey nachos, assorted toppings, corn, lettuce and tomato, fresh and chilled fruit, mini corn muffin.

diced peach cup, orange juice.

Wednesday, Dec. 10: Grilled ham and cheese on whole-wheat, tomato soup, whole-grain goldfish crackers, fresh fruit, Dole Fruit Push-Up.

Thursday, Dec. 11: French bread pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

Friday, Dec. 12: Turkey nachos, assorted toppings, corn, lettuce and tomato, fresh and chilled fruit, mini corn muffin.

AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, Dec. 8: Chicken nuggets with dipping sauce, steamed white rice, seasoned green beans, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, Dec. 9: French toast sticks, baked potato rounds, turkey sausage links, diced peach cup, orange juice.

Wednesday, Dec. 10: Grilled cheese on whole-wheat, tomato soup, whole-grain goldfish crackers, fresh fruit, Dole Fruit Push-Up.

Thursday, Dec. 11: French bread pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

Friday, Dec. 12: Turkey nachos, assorted toppings, corn, lettuce and tomato, fresh and chilled fruit, mini corn muffin.

ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL

Monday, Dec. 8: Chicken nuggets with dipping sauce, steamed white rice, seasoned vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, Dec. 9: French toast sticks, baked potato rounds, turkey sausage links,

Agawam High School

Counseling bulletin

College Acceptances: Alissa O'Connell, University of New Haven; Allison Schwarz, University of Maine, University of Vermont; Eric Wolowicz, Coastal Carolina University; Ashley Webster, Salem State University; Haley Kozlak, Southern New Hampshire University; Alyssa Guerette, University of Hartford; Brittany Busco, Nichols College; Kayla Moquin, University of New Haven; Kyla McGurn, University of Tampa.

FREE SAT Practice Test: Princeton Review will host a free SAT practice test to AHS students on Saturday, Jan. 10, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Students must register at princetonreview.com or 800-2-REVIEW, ext. 1065. Postcards have been mailed home to all 10th- and 11th-graders.

SAT Prep Course: Princeton Review will host an SAT Prep Course at AHS beginning Jan. 28. Students must register and pay at princetonreview.com or 800-2-REVIEW, ext. 1065. Postcards have been mailed home to all 10th- and 11th-graders.

Seniors that applied Early Action or Early Decision or before Nov. 16: Please provide your counselor with a regular-sized envelope for each school you applied early to so that an updated transcript can be mailed to them right away. The envelope must include one stamp, be addressed to each college and include you first and last name only in the left hand corner.

College Applications: The deadline to submit all college applications to your counselor is Dec. 5.

Scholarships: See your counselor for more information or an application.

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DANCERS ON HAND TO WELCOME SANTA



Submitted photo

Students from the Mary Ann Studio of Dance were on hand to welcome Santa Claus at Eastfield Mall, where he was greeted with a parade from one end of the mall to the other. The Mary Ann dancers had the opportunity for a quick handshake with Santa prior to the parade and after, the dancers headed to the North Pole Village for an extended chat with Santa about their holiday wishes.

Local comedy troupe improv at Agawam library Dec. 16

The Phantom Sheep Players, a comedy troupe based in western Massachusetts, will return to the Agawam Public Library with a free show of improv and sketch comedy, Tuesday, Dec. 16, at 6:30 p.m. "LaughCrafters" will feature improvised scenes created right on the spot based on audience suggestions along with a few pre-recorded sketches.

The Phantom Sheep Players repertoire includes Western Mass. natives Eric Boucher, Tommy Lynch, Jesse Redmond, Greg Seymour, Jeff Tingley and Kevin Zabawa, each with a wide variety of professional entertainment experience that includes improvisation, voice-overs, teaching, writing, directing, video production and puppetry. As a team, they write and perform all the material in "LaughCrafters," including playing the multiple characters.

Phantom Sheep members have worked

together for over a decade. They are known for their successful series of comedy improv shows and workshops that are customized for audiences of all ages. This year, they began a partnership with the Springfield JCC, providing theater education, and performed again as part of West Hartford's Improvaganza.

They have also produced over 35 original shows, including two new ones in 2014 for the theme park industry. This holiday show is an annual tradition to celebrate the season with the local community and will feature parody and satire intended for a teen and adult audience.

For more information about the troupe and the show, visit www.phantomsheep.com and "like" them on Facebook, where you can RSVP for this event.

TVAA schedules meeting, holiday social in town

The Tobacco Valley Artists Association will hold its December meeting and holiday social on Wednesday, Dec. 17, at 6:30 pm at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St.

Nancy D. Gougeon, who specializes in traditional art, will demonstrate landscape painting in oil. Gougeon is a native of Northampton, currently residing in Holyoke. She studied art at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, Greenfield Community College and Northampton School of Design and also studied classical art under Donald Wilhelm Jr.

Although she works in all mediums, her favorites are oils and pastels. Her works include portraits, still life and land- and cityscapes. Painting in a traditional way of

the Renaissance artists, Gougeon gives "reverence to light."

A member of Tobacco Valley Artists Association and former vice president and member of the Holyoke Art League, she has exhibited and demonstrated throughout Western Massachusetts and Connecticut, receiving several awards including "Best of Show." She has instructed art at the Holyoke Valley Christian School in Northampton, Holyoke Creative Art Center, Hadley Senior Center and Walter Smith Museum in Springfield.

TVAA comprises 170 member artists throughout Massachusetts and Connecticut. Meetings are open to the public.

St. Pat's Committee seeks new members

The Agawam St. Patrick's Committee invites the public to join the team. Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the St. John the Evangelist Church rectory in Agawam.

The committee is a community service organization that creates a float and selects a colleen and her court to participate in the

Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade. The colleen is awarded a \$1,000 scholarship each year.

To obtain a membership application, write to Agawam St. Patrick's Day Committee, P.O. Box 825, Agawam, MA 01001, or contact Vera Conway at 786-3247.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS PAPER

BUSINESS

Comcast lends support to Agawam YMCA

In response to the recent opening of the Agawam YMCA Wellness and Program Family Center, the YMCA of Greater Springfield announced the donation of \$10,000 in support from Comcast. A formal check presentation was held Dec. 1 at the Agawam YMCA, 63 Springfield St.

The Agawam YMCA is the latest addition to the YMCA of Greater Springfield's many locations, providing membership and program opportunities to the Agawam region.

With support from Comcast in the way of public service announcements and direct

financial contributions, the Agawam YMCA is slated to impact over 3,000 youth, teens, families and seniors in Agawam and its surrounding communities. The YMCA of Greater Springfield serves 115,000 members and program participants in 14 cities and towns throughout the region.

The Agawam YMCA includes a health and wellness center, sauna, group exercise space, café, technology center and community meeting space. Naming opportunities for donors are still available.

NEW LOOK FOR NINA'S COOKIES



Submitted photo

West of the River Chamber of Commerce member Nina's Cookies hosted a grand reopening of its location at 541 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, during a ribbon-cutting ceremony held Saturday, Nov. 15.

Legal Notices

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL AD

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on Thursday, December 11, 2014 at 6:30 PM at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Tirone Development Corp. for property located on Federal Street.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission

12/4/14

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758

Docket No. HD14A0047AD CITATION G.L. c. 210, § 6

In the matter of: Rylie Madison McLane

To: Joshua Layne any unnamed or unknown parent and persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and to the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth.

A Petition has been presented to said court by:

Anthony J Rose of Agawam, MA Erin M Rose of Agawam, MA requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to Rylie Madison Rose

If you desire to object thereto, you or your attorney must file a written appearance in said court at: Springfield on or before ten o'clock in the morning (10:00 a.m.) on: 02/13/2015

WITNESS, Hon. Anne M Geoffrion, First Justice of this Court.

Date: November 24, 2014

Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
12/4,12/11,12/18/14

HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to klanier@turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legals for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x271.

Turley Publications, Inc. publishes 15 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts. Visit www.turley.com for more information.

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling).

Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

Seniors

Agawam Senior Center

Weekly calendar of events

Monday, Dec. 8: Shopping and Lunch Trip to Enfield Mall; 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9 a.m., Painting Club; 9:30 a.m., Line Dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., Bingo; 5 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Tuesday, Dec. 9: Senior Center Holiday Bazaar (no morning exercise); 9 a.m., Knitting Class, Sewing Class; 10 a.m., Computer Tech Club Meets; 12:30 p.m., Ladies Billiards, Mah Jongg, Movie ("White Christmas"); 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 2:30 p.m., Chorus; 4 p.m., Disability Commission Meeting; 4:30 p.m., Yoga; 6 p.m., Beginner Line Dance; 6:30 p.m., Evening Sewing Class.

Wednesday, Dec. 10: 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 11:45, Music with Tony Rarus; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Scrabble, Ballroom Lessons; 1:30 p.m., Chapter 1 Banquet (no meeting); 5 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Thursday, Dec. 11: 9 a.m., Exercise; 9:30 a.m., Pam's Place Children Visit, Quilting; 10 a.m., Line Dancing; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Pitch, Open Art, Free Blood Pressure Check; 2 p.m., Melody Band Practice; 6:30 p.m., Evening Pitch, Evening Line Dancers.

Friday, Dec. 12: 8 a.m., Yoga; 9:15 a.m., All Media Art; 9:30 a.m., Tai Chi; Noon, Canasta; 1 p.m., Christmas Show (\$5), Pitch, Cribbage; 5 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Lunch menu

Monday, Dec. 8: Chicken parmesan, pasta with sauce, garden salad, oranges.

Tuesday, Dec. 9: Vegetable orzo soup, Philly cheesesteak grinder, Tater Tots, diced apricots.

Wednesday, Dec. 10: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, pudding.

Thursday, Dec. 11: Honey-glazed roasted chicken, baby potatoes, glazed carrots, baked good.

Friday, Dec. 12: Baked fish, scalloped potatoes, buttered spinach, pineapple.

DANCE TEAM HELPS 'STOCKINGS FOR SOLDIERS'



Submitted photo

The LHQ Dance Force Dance Team wanted to give back to the community that has supported it in so many ways. Forty-six dance families donated hundreds of items to the Stockings for Soldiers campaign and can be seen here dropping bags of items off to Hidden Treasures in Agawam.

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Claus for the season



A nutcracker and other Christmas decorations were on display.

The annual Agawam Knights of Columbus "Breakfast with Santa" was held Sunday, Nov. 30, at St. John's Parish Center in Agawam. Happy attendees were given large pancakes and sausage, balloon hats and animals, and time with Santa Claus. Old St. Nick will be back in town the next two weekends — see our "Out and About" calendar for the details.



Matthew Machos, 4 racks his brain over his Christmas wishes.



Franklin Mazzei shovels some ready-to-serve pancakes.



Amy Pisano of Agawam crochets an "Olaf" hat, based on a character from Disney's movie "Frozen."



Pat, left, and Lori Harvey of Agawam enjoy a nice breakfast together.



Mother Mary and festive poinsettias greet attendees at St. John's Parish Center.



Grand Knight Frankie Mazzei was all smiles while making balloon animals and hats for the attending children.



Shannon Rose, 6, of Enfield, was excited by the size of her pink and yellow balloon hat.

Turley Publications photos by
Kimberly Hatch



Matthew Letellier, 6, of Agawam poses for his annual picture with Santa.



Elf Donna Pisano was in the holiday spirit on Sunday.

Come Join Us For Breakfast With Santa

Saturday, December 13th 9AM to 11AM

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SPORTS

Brownies tip Terriers in OT

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications
Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – When Agawam quarterback Troy Gallerani headed off the field just before halftime with his team trailing 16-3, he was very clear about what his team needed to.

"We just need to take it to them in the second half," said Gallerani.

The Brownies did just that, coming back with four touchdowns and took the lead. West Springfield would send them game to overtime, but a stop on a two-point conversion attempt would give Agawam a 38-36 overtime victory over West Springfield on Thanksgiving morning at Clark Field.

West Springfield was able to keep possession of the ball for most of the first half, but Agawam's defense held tough for most of the first 24 minutes. Unfortunately, West Springfield's defense was even better, limiting Agawam to just three points.

West Springfield was able to make their opening drive happen for a touchdown when Kyle Beane received a 29-yard pass from quar-



Gio Russo takes a handoff.

Turley Publications photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

terback Anthony Costa. After the conversion, West Springfield led 8-0.

After a pair of possessions, Agawam got the ball inside the 20-yard line in West Springfield's end, only to get stuffed on three plays. Sean Moore then came on to nail a 28-yard field goal, the first of his career, and a rarity in high school football.

After that play, Jared Costa would make an 80-yard return to the end zone. With the conversion, West Springfield led 16-3.

Agawam would threaten to come back with a touchdown before halftime, but a turnover spelled the end of that drive.

In the third quarter, Gallerani took things in his own hands. He made a 75-yard run on a quarterback keeper to get into the end zone. After Moore nailed the extra point, Agawam trailed 16-10.

Later, Agawam trailed 22-10 when Gio Russo, a senior running back took a handoff from Gallerani and found a hole that took him 51 yards to the end zone. Agawam trailed 22-16 after that.

The Brownies would stop West Springfield on page 13

Towns break bread before rivalry game

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications
Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – It is the 90th time Agawam and West Springfield got together for Thanksgiving football.

On Nov. 25 a popular tradition continued as the West Springfield Rotary Club hosted the Agawam Rotary Club at their weekly meeting. Included were the administration, football captains, and cheerleading captains from the rival schools as the teams' leaderships met together in a peaceful gathering before the game.

"This is the great way to start off the holiday," said Bitzas. "We enjoy getting the two clubs together to get ready for the football game."

Thanksgiving and the football game was adequately described as two "main events." The student captains were reminded the football game is only one part of the holiday. The best part of Thanksgiving is dinner with family and friends.

It was the first Rotary Lunch and Thanksgiving Day game coached by Agawam head coach John Benjamin. But it was not Benjamin's first time on the field on Thanksgiving, as he played in 1988 and 1989 as a starter for the Brownies.

He recalled the pranks the two teams used to play against one another.

"There were days of painting grass and painting geese in the pond," said Benjamin. "Those days are over, but the rivalry is still strong as ever."

Please see RIVALRY, page 13



Turley Publications photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

The varsity and cheerleading captains with coach John Benjamin (far left). From left to right: Gio Russo, Anthony Basile, Keegan Sullivan, Paul Taft, Emily Whitman and Mike Reed.

All-Stars hit court at West Side

By Tim Peterson
Turley Publications
Sports Correspondent

WEST SPRINGFIELD - The third annual Spalding Western Massachusetts Girls High School All-Star volleyball match, which was held at the new West Springfield High School last Tuesday night, Nov. 25, was a huge success.

After losing the opening set by two points (27-25), Team Morgan, which was coached by West Side head coach Chelsea Barnicle, came out on top in the next two sets, 25-20, 25-19 for a 2-1 victory against Team Frierwood, which was coached by Minnechaug head coach Mark Taylor.

"This is a perfect way to end the high school volleyball season and celebrate the talented players we have here in Western Mass.," said George Mulry, who's the Executive Director of the International Volleyball Hall of Fame, located in Holyoke. "We also wanted it to be a fun night for everyone as well."

The members of Team Morgan who live in the Turley Publication coverage area are Katie Gagnon, who's a junior at Minnechaug, Cara McKenzie, who's a sophomore at Belchertown High, Zoe Lipkins, who's a junior at Minnechaug, Meg Adams, who's a sophomore at Ware, and Sadie Simons, who's a junior at Ware.

"It was so much fun playing in this volleyball match tonight," said McKenzie, who helped the Lady Orioles advance into the Western Mass Division 2 semifinals this year. "This was my first time playing in the All-Star match and I was really nervous because all of the players here tonight are just amazing. We did come together as a team very quickly and we played very well defensively."

Simons was selected to the Second Team this year, but Mulry invited her to play in the All-Star match because a couple of players weren't able to attend the All-Star match.



Turley Publications photo by David Henry sweetdogphotos.com

Agawam's Lexi Cears was named to the Second Team.

"I was supposed to play in this match last year, but I wasn't able to make it that night," Simons said. "I'm glad they invited me again this year. It was a great experience playing with some of the best players in Western Mass. It was also a lot of fun being a member of the winning team."

Simons and Adams guided the Lady Indians to a 15-4 overall record this fall. Their team lost to Lee in a Division 3 quarterfinal match.

"Meg always works very hard and she was a huge part of our success this year," Simons added. "It was a lot of fun playing on the same team with her again tonight."

While Simons and Adams were members of the same All-Star team, two of McKenzie's high school teammates were members

Please see ALL-STARS, page 14

FOOTBALL, from page 12

Springfield on another possession, and Jason Carleton's 5-yard run tied the score. Moore kicked the extra point to make it 23-22 Agawam.

Agawam's defense then stopped the Terriers again, with a three and out series. Russo responded with a 38-yard touchdown run.

Leading 30-22 with a little more than a minute remaining, Anthony Costa delivered for the Terriers with an 18-yard pass to Billy McQuade. West Springfield, which does not have a kicker, then got the conversion to tie the score 30-30, sending the game to overtime.

Agawam scored on its first possession, with Fred Karl-Morin taking a short pass from Gallerani. The Brownies then decided

to go for the conversion, with Jason Carleton making the short reception to put Agawam up 38-30.

West Springfield followed with a score, but failed to make the conversion to give Agawam the win.

In their final games for Agawam, both Gio Russo and Anthony Basile had excellent games, with a lot of their success coming in the second half. Russo led the Brownies with 223 yards on 16 carries. Basile ran for 83 yards on 10 carries.

Agawam's season ends at 8-3.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.



Troy Gallerani makes a pass to the left.



Sean Moore kicks the first field goal of his varsity career.

Turley Publications photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

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Litz Memorial Game set for Dec. 18

By **Gregory A. Scibelli**

*Turley Publications
Sports Correspondent*

AGAWAM — On Thursday, Dec. 18, the Agawam High School boys basketball team will participate in the eighth annual Brian Litz Memorial Scholarship Fund Alumni game.

Tim Lockwood, a former teammate of Litz, said he founded the game as a way to honor his friend and teammate. Litz was killed in the line of duty in 2004.

Litz was a K-9 deputy sheriff in Ocala, a town in Marion County, Fla. He was killed responding to a wellness check by a 74-year old man on Feb. 7, 2004. Litz was 35. Lockwood described Litz as a great teammate and someone who he did his best to cheer on his teammates. Agawam was mired in a 56-game losing streak in 1987 when Litz was a senior.

"He was on the varsity and went 0-40 as a player," said Lockwood. "After he graduated, we finally broke the streak and our team went 12-8 that season. When we finally won a game, he was the first one on the court to come and congratulate us."

Lockwood decided he wanted to do something to honor the memory of Litz. Lockwood said Litz's son already had a scholarship for college set.

"He was fortunate to live in a county in Florida where (former) New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner made a donation

to pay for college for the children of any police officer killed in action," said Lockwood. "So we decided to start a game here that would honor his memory and raise money for scholarships locally."

Each year, two Agawam boys varsity players receive scholarships. The best part of awarding the scholarship is that there is no political influence.

"The players that are underclassmen on the team vote for the player that fulfills Brian's three great qualities," said Lockwood. "He is a good teammate, he gives 100 percent effort on the court, and he has a positive attitude."

The vote is taken prior to Senior Night and is done by secret ballot so there is no influence and it is not a popularity contest.

The game itself is free of charge and begins at 6 p.m. The game features a team of 15 alumni players and the current varsity team. On the fifth anniversary of the game, Lockwood organized two games, one featuring a mix group against the varsity, and another between alumni players from the 1990s and 2000s.

"It's always a really great time and we usually have to turn away players because the teams fill up fast," said Lockwood.

The admission free of charge, but donations for the scholarships will be collected at the doors. Last year, \$2,000 was given to two winners, the top vote among the varsity and the runner-up. Since the scholarship began, \$25,000 has been donated to graduating varsity players.

RIVALRY, from page 12

He complimented the players on both teams, saying the healthy rivalry the teams have are the reason events like the Rotary Lunch are happening.

"We do all of this because of you," said Benjamin. "I hope you all have a great time playing in this game."

The Agawam and West Springfield rivalry stands as one of the most storied rivalries in the area along with Cathedral-Westfield and Holyoke-Chicopee.

The Agawam-West Springfield rivalry has come a long way in 89 years. Agawam Athletic Director David Stratton says the peaceful meeting between the two teams at the Rotary Club meeting is much different than pranking that used to take place many years ago.

"I think we have a good, competitive, healthy rivalry with West Springfield," said Stratton. "It's one of those rivalries that when you step off the field after the competition is over, the teams can pat each other on the back and say 'good job.'"

Mayor Richard Cohen has had a longtime tradition with mayors in West Springfield, making a friendly "wager" with the opposing mayor. As is tradition, Cohen and West Springfield Mayor Ed Sullivan said the losing town's mayor will make a \$100 donation to the local food pantry.

Regardless of the outcome, both mayors



Turley Publications photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

West Springfield Mayor Ed Sullivan and Agawam Mayor Richard Cohen discuss the Thanksgiving matchup between Agawam and West Springfield.

would make \$100 donations. The losing Rotary Club was also supposed to make a donation.

Anthony Basile, a senior captain for the Brownies, was able to enjoy the traditional lunch for the second time. He said the Thanksgiving experience is one he always enjoys.

"It's a great tradition for us to have," said Basile. "It does not matter about the playoffs. This game still means a lot to us."

HONORS, from page 7

ing and overall school citizenship.

The award is a valuable addition to credential packages and counselor recommendations for seniors when applying for college. The 17-year-olds said they were honored to receive the award.

Hartmann called it "an encouraging reassurance" for everything she's worked for during the past few years.

"I strive to make my family and my peers proud, and to prove to myself what I can accomplish with all my hard work," she said. "It's nice to know our school recognizes the academic achievements of its students."

Reed said it shows all his hard work throughout school has paid off.

"I've never sought recognition for my accomplishments, but it's a humbling experience knowing that others have noticed my hard work," he said.

Hartmann took honors courses as a freshman and sophomore and pursued a rigorous AP course schedule as a junior and senior. Reed said he also took "extremely challenging" courses throughout high school and has ranked consistently near the top of his class.

"This award recognizes my hard work and achievements in the classroom," said Reed. "Dedication to our education is what sets students like me and Lauren apart. We've put in countless hours of studying and homework to succeed — and this award definitely recognizes that fact."

Hartmann said support from her family and peers have helped her to achieve suc-



Turley Publications photos by Mike Lydick

Superintendent William Sapelli congratulates AHS senior Lauren Hartmann after presenting her with a MASS Certificate of Academic Award at the Nov. 25 School Committee meeting.

cess in and out of school. "I've always tried to maintain a high level of self-motivation for my academics and extracurricular activities."

Carving out time for activities

In addition to being a member of the school's Key Club and National Honor Society, Hartmann also dedicates herself to working with charities, tutoring two younger students, and holding a part-time job. She

balances this by "stepping back" to find free time for herself to draw or play guitar.

Reed's club activities include As Schools Match Wits, Model Congress, Math Team, National Honor Society, Key Club and the AHS Band. He doesn't participate in any athletics, giving him "ample time" to do his school work outside of his club activities.

"There is no secret to my success in school," he added. "I've always had a good memory, strong testing skills, and a determination to be the best. While I may not be number 1 in my class, I'm proud of where I am."

Reed said one reason he's maintained a high GPA is that he doesn't stress about his school work. He stays focused and organized. He usually relaxes after school by listening to music or playing video games.

"Even when I have a lot to do, I make sure I don't get flustered and take time for myself and my own interests outside of school," he added. "What motivates me to do so much and do well in school is my desire to be the best that I can be."

Neither student has finalized their decision about what college or university to attend. Hartmann is considering a career in education while Reed intends to become a minister.

Big asset for college

Although planning different careers, both said the award will be a big asset on college applications. "I hope this award will make my application stand out and help me earn

merit scholarships to aid in paying for my education after high school," said Hartmann.

Reed said the award "will prove to colleges that I'm a dedicated student with a passion for learning — qualities that many colleges look for in their students."

Their parents — Chris and Jeanne Hartmann, and Tim and Melody Reed — said they have always been involved in Lauren's and Jordan's education, encouraging them to do their best in school.

"Since grammar school, we have stressed in our children the values of conduct and effort in school. Those were always the first points of discussion on report cards and progress reports; behave yourself, be respectful of your teachers, try your hardest, and the grades will take care of themselves," said Chris Hartmann.

Tim Reed said he and his wife have been active participants throughout Jordan's education process. "We attend parent-teacher conferences, extracurricular activities, and give support as his parents through words of affirmation. We've also encouraged Jordan to further his education after high school."

AHS Principal Steve Lemanski said Hartmann and Reed are "deserving recipients" due to their work ethic.

"They epitomize what it takes to be a great student academically," said Lemanski. "Both are high achievers and goal-oriented. Lauren and Jordan are great role models for younger students. I'm confident they will succeed at whatever they decide to do in the future — academically and professionally."

ALL-STARS, from page 12

of Team Friermood. They are seniors Emily Woodford and Erin Reed-Coates.

"I really wish that Emily and Erin were my teammates tonight, but it was different playing against them for the first time," McKenzie said. "I'm hoping that we can still have a strong team next year, but it's going to be very difficult without both Emily and Erin. They were a very important part of our team this season."

The other members of Team Friermood who live in the Turley Publication coverage area are Nina Dias, who's a sophomore at Ludlow, Ayanna Meadows, who's a sophomore at Chicopee, Alyssa Guyon, who's a senior at Ludlow, and Paulina Modestow, who's a senior at Minnechaug.

Guyon, who's an outstanding three-sport athlete, also played in last year's All-Star match, which was held at Chicopee Comp.

"It was really nice to be selected to play in this All-Star game again this year," Guyon said. "It was also very nice to have one of my teammates here with me tonight. I was the only member of my team who played in this All-Star game last year. It was awesome."

The Lady Lions lost, 3-2, against Minnechaug in the Western Mass. Division 2 finals at Holyoke Community College on Nov. 8.

"I had a lot of talent on my team this year, but Alyssa Guyon is an excellent volleyball player," said Taylor, who coached in the All-Star game for the first time. "Her high school

team was outstanding this year and we were very fortunate to beat them in the Western Mass. finals."

Modestow, who'll be a member of the University of Hartford women's volleyball team next year, wasn't able to attend last week's All-Star match.

"Paulina is currently playing with a juniors team in the Boston area," Taylor said. "Unfortunately, her team had practice tonight, so she was unable to play in the All-Star match. I've known her for a very long time and she's going to be the first player to play volleyball at a Division 1 school since I've been coaching here. She's a fantastic athlete."

The members of the second team squad, who were recognized between one of the sets, are Lexi Cears, who's a senior at Agawam High School, Stephanie Chapin, who's a junior at Minnechaug Regional High School, Alexis Corcoran, who's a junior at Chicopee High School, Kacey Legare, who's a senior at Chicopee Comp, Meghan Martowski, who's a senior at Ludlow High School, Hannah Sitler, who's a senior at Southwick Regional High School, and Emily West, who's a senior at Holyoke High School.

There should be some outstanding returning high school volleyball players in Western Mass. next year.

Tim Peterson is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at dforbes@turley.com.

WATER, from page 1

water services, as there are other sources of water that Springfield will be able to draw from.

Decker said Baltazar has an excellent plan in place for detours and other disturbances in the construction, and they have been excellent to work with.

The next road to be closed for pipeline work is Robin Ridge Drive, a residential street off North Westfield Street. From there it will proceed easterly along the pipeline easement, crossing Thalia Drive, Parkview Drive, North Street, Colemore and Cherry streets, Springfield Street, Line Street, Lancaster Drive, Cooper Street and Suffield Street. From that point, the pipeline follows Route 57 to the rotary.

Decker said workers will take 18 months to two years to cover that distance, but there is no specific timeline for individual streets.

The town uses the Blackboard Connect "robo-call" system to notify residents of pipeline work in their neighborhoods, Decker said. The contractor and the city of Springfield are ultimately responsible for notifications, he said, as it is Springfield's project.

Springfield owns easements for the transmission pipeline leading from Provin Mountain. The easements are off the road, and will not affect motorists with the exception of crossing the street on some occasions.

"You may see a few localized detours

when they have to cross a street with their pipeline," said Decker.

The only other disturbance will be for some residents who live along the pipeline. Decker said the construction will produce more noise and traffic temporarily. "Most of the residents along those properties are just used to the land being mowed a few times a year," said Decker. "Now it is going to be an active construction site for a while."

The result will be a new pipeline that is estimated to last 100 to 150 years, Mulvaney said.

Decker, who oversees the Agawam Water Department, said he was pleased Baltazar was chosen for the Springfield pipeline project. He noted that Baltazar recently completed work for an Agawam pipeline that runs under North Westfield Street.

"They were the low bidder on our project, as well, so it really helps with the coordination of this project," said Decker. "It obviously helps that they just finished up with our water main project. They consult with us as far as anything they want to shut down or detour, and coordinate with the Police Department, as well."

Baltazar completed the water main along North Westfield Street in September, well ahead of the scheduled completion date in November. The final step in that project is street paving, which will occur in the spring.

Weather permitting, Baltazar is scheduled to work on the Springfield pipeline through the winter, Decker said.

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AID CUTS, from page 1

Cities and towns receive local aid from several sources. Among them are Chapter 90 funding for roads and bridges, Chapter 70 funding for schools, and unrestricted general government aid, formally known as lottery aid.

Boldyga says the law is murky when it comes to regional transportation aid, and cuts may happen there without Senate approval.

Humason and Boldyga said they will both oppose local aid cuts and hope their colleagues in the House and Senate do the same.

"I have always campaigned on the fact that I want to keep local aid coming to our cities and towns," said Humason. "We have a lot of roads and a lot of different infrastructure improvements."

Humason, who represents 10 other communities in addition to Agawam, says he will also fight to keep regional transportation aid.

"It's all important to the different communities," said Humason. "I have three regional school districts in my Senate district."

Boldyga said it is possible Patrick will not be able to make any 9C cuts before he leaves office at the beginning January.

Currently, Boldyga explains, the Legislature is in "informal session." During the

informal sessions, bills, resolutions, and amendments can still come in front of the house or senate for passage.

"We are just one of nine states that has a full-time legislature," said Boldyga.

But during the informal sessions, not all legislators are on Beacon Hill. Laws can still pass if there are no objections, but any one legislator can oppose taking a vote and require a higher percentage of legislators be present to vote. Boldyga said the 9C cuts are an example of where he or other legislators would oppose voting on the bill without a formal session.

There is not a formal session scheduled currently between now and the end of the season. Boldyga said that is subject to change.

The Agawam City Council may voice their formal opposition to 9C cuts to local aid. Councilor George Bitzas drafted a resolution last month opposing local aid cuts. The council will vote on the resolution on Dec. 15.

In a draft of the resolution released last month, Bitzas said any mid-year cuts to school funding or municipal aid would be "extremely painful at the local level ... destabilize local budgets in the middle of the fiscal year, and force reductions in community services."

CORE, from page 1

for the love of reading. "I would love for my daughter to come home and say instead of having an accelerated reading test on this book, we get to do a book report."

Labonte-Veras also belongs to Agawam Parents for Children First. The group is working with other parent groups around the state to bring their concerns to state leaders to let them know why the standards are not working.

Christina Beauchemin, the parent of a kindergartener, told the committee she's concerned about an assessment tool called Teaching Strategies Gold. She's worried because it often requires a substitute teacher so her son's teacher can spend time entering data.

"He's being measured on 11 data points this year. Next year, kindergarteners will be measured on 36 data points — three times as many," she added.

Beauchemin said she doesn't want her son's teacher to be "consumed and drained" by the amount of work required to record data. "I want my child's teacher's main focus to be on the instruction of my child — not stressed about meeting data entry deadlines."

Michelle Connery said the Common Core has become such a national issue that many Agawam parents like herself are questioning what these new standards mean for their children.

"It's very easy to focus on the negative parts of the Common Core. However, it's essential that our frustration isn't directed at our teachers and administration, but rather shared with elected officials," she said.

Connery urged the committee to "be the voice of your constituents and examine the Common Core Standards and constant testing of our children."

Push for repeal

The parents group is pushing to eliminate the Common Core. LaBonte-Veras said parents want legislators and Governor-elect Charles Baker to see the "flaws" in the Common Core: "excessive testing" and data collection "riddled" with errors.

She said since forming the group there have been a "misconception" that she is against the district's teachers and administration.



Turley Publication photo by Mike Lydick

Superintendent William Sapelli, left, and School Committee member Anthony Bonavita exchange words during a debate Nov. 25 about a new standardized test program being considered as an MCAS replacement.

TESTS, from page 1

That question sparked a brief — but heated — debate about PARCC between Superintendent William Sapelli and Bonavita.

Bonavita said he didn't understand why the committee continued to hear about PARCC and the Common Core. He said the committee voted against using PARCC and had approved a resolution opposing unfunded mandates such as PARCC.

"Until you know what the state is going to do, why are we continuously being told about this — and why are you trying to sell us on this?" Bonavita asked during his clash with Sapelli. Bonavita claimed the school administration has been making a sales pitch for PARCC from the beginning.

Information or sales pitch?

"Why are we consistently getting these presentations about PARCC and the Common Core? You're not going to sell me — sell the parents," said Bonavita.

Sapelli told Bonavita there was no attempt to "sell" anything to the committee. He added that the community and the committee need to be apprised of the state's plan to replace the 20 year-old MCAS.

"This isn't a sales pitch," said Sapelli. "It's information."

The plan — unless changed by the new governor — is to implement PARCC, Sapelli said.

"It's something people need to deal with — one way or the other. We're not saying



Turley Publications photos by Mike Lydick

Agawam parent Christina Beauchemin told the School Committee at its Nov. 25 meeting that she wants her child's teacher to be focused on teaching — not stressed out about meeting Common Core data entry deadlines.

"That's not the case at all," she said, adding that her group feels fortunate to have "such wonderful" teachers and administrators. "We're so lucky that our administration is willing to work with us, educate us, and try to be more transparent."

Labonte-Veras said her group understands that the standards are mandates coming from the state and that districts must comply. But she commended the school committee for passing a resolution expressing its concerns about the Common Core standards and mandates.

Massachusetts adopted the Common State Standards in 2010. It is among more than 40 states that have adopted what are termed "high-quality academic" standards in mathematics and English language arts/literacy (ELA).

A "common" set of standards were developed several years ago as a way to prepare all students nationwide with the same skills and knowledge needed for college and careers.

Obituaries & Church News

DEATH NOTICES & SERVICES

Campbell, Carolyn M.

Died Nov. 29, 2014
Private Burial
Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home

Dutton, Mildred R.
Died Nov. 25, 2014
Funeral Dec. 3, 2014
Agawam Funeral Home



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Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

Agawam garden club, florist to decorate at Yuletide

WEST SPRINGFIELD — Area garden clubs, florists and designers will donate their time, creativity and materials to adorn Storroron Village Museum with all-natural decorations for Yuletide at Storroron, the Village's free winter holiday festival, Saturday, Dec. 6, and Sunday, Dec. 7, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the grounds of Eastern States Exposition.

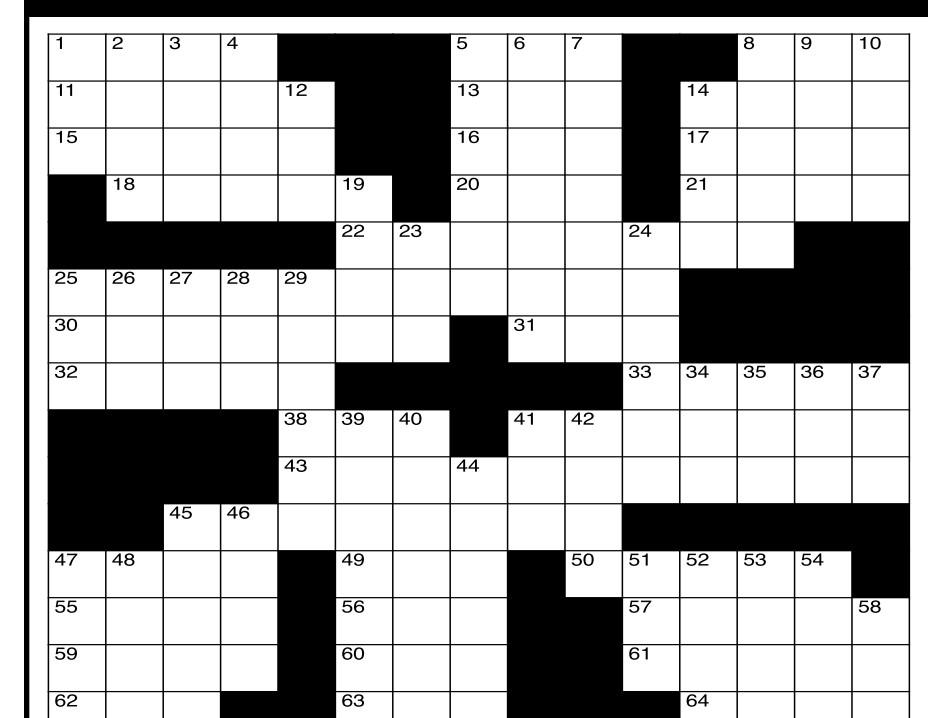
Among the participating clubs and florists are the Agawam Garden Club and Floral Concepts by Tom, of Agawam.

During Yuletide at Storroron, visitors can explore the Village on a self-guided tour and experience the old-fashioned holiday fun of storytelling, ice sculpting, musi-

cal performances and Early American craft demonstrations.

In addition to Yuletide, the work of these volunteers can also be seen during Storroron's Open House Tours, Dec. 9 to 13 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Lantern Light Tours, Wednesday, Dec. 10, from 6 to 8 p.m. Admission for Open House and Lantern Light tours is \$5; children under 6, free.

Storroron Village Museum, an educational arm of Eastern States Exposition, presents hands-on school programs and guided tours of its historic buildings throughout the year as well as seasonal 19th century-themed events.

**CLUES ACROSS**

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Breezed through | 41. Nicaraguan capital | 3. Girl's name | 35. Honorable title |
| 5. What part of (abbr.) | 43. Artifact recycling center | meaning "snow" in Welsh | (Turkish) |
| 8. Reciprocal of a sine | 45. Injure severely | 4. Unhearing | 36. Hairy coat of a mammal |
| 11. Moves suddenly | 47. A steep rugged rock or cliff | 5. Heavenly body | 37. Small amount |
| 13. Household god (Roman) | 49. Nothing | 6. About heat energy | 39. Arc of spectral colors |
| 14. Picasso mistress Dora | 50. Bangladesh capital | 7. New Jersey capital | 40. Oval |
| 15. Old Italian monetary units | 55. Ground up corn | 8. Steel rope | 41. Gym floor padding |
| 16. Brew | 56. Measure of disc storage density | 9. Selling | 42. Used of tobacco |
| 17. Especially capable | 57. Smart ___ : irritating | 10. Eurasian land rail genus | 44. Overnight case |
| 18. Coffeehouses | 59. Persian dialect spoken in Afghanistan | 12. Point midway between S and SE | 45. Volcanic craters |
| 20. Not | 21. Holly genus | 14. Disfigure | 46. Tangerine grapefruit hybrid |
| 22. Work done after 40 hrs | 22. Former CIA | 19. Sound unit | 47. Military leader (abbr.) |
| 25. Immunization | 25. TV taping device | 23. Volt-ampere | 48. Enlarge a hole |
| 30. More aseptic | 26. 4th Caliph of Islam | 24. Mentally deranged | 51. Express pleasure |
| 31. The brain and spinal cord (abbr.) | 27. Musician ___ Lo Green | 25. TV taping device | 52. Bivalve mollusk |
| 32. Cambodian monetary units | 28. Golden state (abbr.) | 26. 4th Caliph of Islam | 53. Philippine Island, city and harbor |
| 33. Toward the stern | 29. Importune | 27. Musician ___ Lo Green | 54. Unreturnable serves |
| 38. Wrath | 30. Deaf signing | 31. The brain and spinal cord (abbr.) | 58. Malaysian Isthmus |
| | 32. Fashionable | 33. Toward the stern | |

Answers on page 6

Buzzin' from Town to Town



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ANTIQUE AND PERIOD chairs - Restored with new woven seats - Many styles and weaves available. Call (413)267-9680.**T-SHIRTS CUSTOM PRINTED.** \$5.50 heavyweight. "Gildan," min. order of 36 pcs. HATS, embroidered \$6.00. Free catalog. (800)242-2374. Berg Sportswear 40.

Antiques

EASY STREET ANTIQUES. Buying one item or entire estates. Buying antique & vintage glassware, pottery, Hummels, jewelry, coins, watches, military, toys, Legos, hunting, fishing, stringed instruments, books, tools, & more. Call today. www.ezstreetantiques.com or (413)626-8603.

Craft Fair

ANNUAL GINGERBREAD FAIR St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 34 Jarvis Avenue, Holyoke. Dec. 6, 9-2. Soup kitchen, deli, baked goods, coffee corner, children's crafts. Make your own gingerbread house. Christmas decorations. Knitted items.

Firewood

!!!!ALL RED & WHITE OAK!!!! Seasoned, over a cord guaranteed. Cut, split, prompt delivery. Call D & D Cordwood (413)348-4326.**FIREWOOD** Fresh cut & split \$175.00. Seasoned cut & split \$250.00. All hardwood. *Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes guaranteed!! New England Forest Products (413)477-0083.

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BE GORGEOUS AT ANY AGE. Beauty Gate Salon and Spa. (413)781-3633. www.beautygatesalonspa.com Gift certificates available.

Miscellaneous

PROMOTE YOUR PRODUCT, service or business to 1.7 million households throughout New England. Reach 4 million potential readers quickly and inexpensively with great results. Use the Buy New England Classified Ad Network by calling (413)283-8393, classifieds@turley.com. Do they work? You are reading one of our ads now!! Visit our website to see where your ads run communitypapersne.com

Wanted

OLD CARPENTER TOOLS wanted. Planes, chisels, saws, levels, etc. Call Ken 413-433-2195. Keep your vintage tools working and get MONEY.

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Wanted

WANTED ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES Furniture, Advertising signs, Toys, Dolls, Trains Crocks & Jugs, Musical Instruments, Sterling Silver & Gold, Coins, Jewelry, Books, Primitives, Vintage Clothing, Military items, Old Lamps. Anything old. Contents of attics, barns and homes. One item or complete estate. Call (413)267-3786 or (413)539-1472 Ask for Frank. WE PAY FAIR PRICES!!!



**Your Ad
Could be
Here!!**

Wanted To Buy

NEW ENGLAND ESTATE PICKERS "in the Old Monson Bowling Alley" We are buying

all types of Antiques and Collectibles!! Simply Bring your items in for a Free Evaluation and/or Cash Offer!! We will come to you. Contents of attic, basements, entire estates!! Clean sweep service. All Gold and Silver Items to include; jewelry, costume and estate pieces, wrist/pocket watches, class ring, etc., broken or not. Silverware sets, trays, trophies, etc. Coins of all sorts, Proof sets, Silver dollars and other coinage collections! All types of Old Advertising Signs, Military items to include Daggers, Swords, Bayonets, guns, medals, uniforms, helmets etc. Old toys, train sets, dolls, metal trucks, old games, model car kits from the '60s, old bicycles, motorcycles, pedal cars, Matchbox, action figures, Pre-1970's Baseball cards, comic books, etc.! Old picture frames, prints and oil paintings, old fishing equipment, lures, tackle boxes! Post Card albums, old coke machines, pinball, juke boxes, slot machines, musical instruments, guitars of all types, banjos, horns, accordions, etc. Old cameras, microscopes, telescopes, etc. Just like on T.V. We buy all things seen on "Pickers" and the "Pawn Shop" shows!! Call or Bring your items in to our

4,500 square foot store!! 64 Main Street, Monson ("The Old Bowling Alley") We are your Estate Specialists!! Over 30 yrs. in the Antique Business! Prompt Courteous Service! Open Daily 10:00- 5:00 Sun. 12:00- 5:00 (413)267-3729.

Christmas Trees

BLUE AND GREEN Spruce. Pre-cut or you cut. All sizes to 15' \$10 to \$50. South Belchertown (413)283-4029 Daily 10-4.**CUT-YOUR-OWN AND FRESH-CUT** trees, firs, pines, 4-10'. Pages' Tree Farm (Green Diamond Systems), 125 Blue Meadow Road, Belchertown (off Ware Rd., RT. 9, opposite DPW). Sat. 8:30-4:30, Sun. 12 noon-4:30. Free coffee, hot chocolate, prizes for kids. (413)323-4401 or (413)218-2932.

Services



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WE TAKE IT ALL
WE LOAD IT ALL**

Lowest Rates, accumulations, junk, estates, attics, garages, appliances, basements, demo services 10% disc. with this ad.

All Major CC's
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Our publications

AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS
23 Southwick Street
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(413) 786-7747
Fax: (413) 786-8457

THE BARRE GAZETTE
5 Exchange Street
P. O. Box 448
Barre, MA 01005
(978) 355-4000
Fax: (978) 355-6274

QUABOAG CURRENT
80 Main Street
Ware, MA 01082
(413) 967-3505
Fax: (413) 967-6009

THE CHICOPEE REGISTER
(413) 592-3599
Fax: (413) 592-3568

COUNTRY JOURNAL
P.O. Box 429, 5 Main Street
Huntington, MA 01050
(413) 667-3211
Fax: (413) 667-3011

THE SUN
(413) 612-2310
Fax: (413) 592-3568

THE JOURNAL REGISTER
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069
(413) 283-8393
Fax: (413) 289-1977

THE SHOPPING GUIDE
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069
(413) 283-8393
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THE WARE RIVER NEWS
80 Main Street
Ware, MA 01082
(413) 967-3505
Fax: (413) 967-6009

THE REGISTER
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069
(413) 283-8393
Fax: (413) 289-1977

THE SENTINEL
P. O. Box 601
10 South Main Street
Belchertown, MA 01007
(413) 323-5999
Fax: (413) 323-9424

SOUTHWICK SUFFIELD NEWS
23 Southwick Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030
(413) 786-7747
Fax: (413) 786-8457

THE TOWN COMMON
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069
(413) 283-8393
Fax: (413) 289-1977

THE TOWN REMINDER
138 College Street, Suite 2
So. Hadley, MA 01075
(413) 536-5333
Fax: (413) 536-5334

WILBRAHAM HAMPDEN TIMES
2341 Boston Rd.
Wilbraham, MA 01095
(413) 682-0007
Fax: (413) 682-0013

THE TOWN
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Deadlines:

The deadline for all print classified ads in the Quabbin and Suburban Zones is Friday at noon for publication the following week. The deadline for the Hill Towns Zone is Monday at noon. All online ads will be published for 7 days including the corresponding print editions.

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Classifieds



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Services



*****A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE*****

Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns, sheds, demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. (413)267-3353, cell (413)222-8868.

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SNOWBLOWER & LAWNMOWER TUNE UP & REPAIR

A & M TUNE-UPS

Push lawnmowers, riding mowers and small engine repair. Work done at your home.

Call Mike (413) 348-7967

ACE CHIMNEY SWEEPS. Cleanings, inspections, repairs, caps, liners, waterproofing, rebuilds. Gutterbrush installations. Local family owned since 1986. HIC #118355. Fully insured. (413)547-8500.

APLE CONSTRUCTION. Interior/exterior renovation and remodeling. General carpentry. Fully lic./Ins. (508)815-9048

BILODEAU AND SON Roofing. Established 1976. New re-roofs and repairs. Gutter cleanings and repairs. Licensed/insured. Call (413)967-6679.

CHAIR SEAT WEAVING & refinishing - cane, fiber rush & splint - Classroom instructor, 20+ years experience. Call Walt at (413)267-9680 for estimate.

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CHIMNEY SERVICES: CLEANINGS, caps, dampers, repairs including masonry and liners. The best for less!!! Worcester to Pittsfield. www.expresschimney.com 413-650-0126, 508-245-1501

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FREE PICK-UP ANY metal household items, appliances, pools, mowers, auto parts, yard furniture, grills, fencing, boilers. Call (860)970-4787.

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HOME HAIRCUTS BY licensed Barber. I come to you. Look good for the holidays. Call Sally (413)949-1154.

HOME THEATER, AV Tech. (Cert. ISF/HAA). The only Cert. Installers in this area. Put in theater for you or install a Plasma the right way. Sales, service. 413-374-8000, 413-374-8300. www.a-v-tech.com

PAINT AND PAPER Over 25 years experience. References. Lic #086220. Please call Kevin 978-355-6864.

Services

SUNRISE HOME REPAIRS accepting new snowblowing customers Allen St. & Stony Hill Rd, Hampden, also after storm/tree cleanups. (413)883-9033.

SUNRISE HOME REPAIRS: Carpentry, decks, hatchways, ramps, painting, property maintenance, after storm/ tree cleanups. Small jobs welcome. Free estimates. (413)883-9033.



WE RENOVATE, SELL & PURCHASE (any condition) horse drawn vehicles such as sleighs, carriages, surreys, wagons, dr's buggies, driveable or lawn ornaments. Some furniture and other restoration services available. Reasonable prices. Quality workmanship. Call (413)213-0373 for estimate and information.

Demers & Sons
Belchertown, MA

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COLEMAN APPLIANCE SERVICE. Servicing all makes and models of washers, dryers, refrigerators, stoves, dishwashers, air conditioners. Also dryer vent cleaning. (413)536-0034.

Child Services

***NEW STATE LAW.** Anyone advertising caring of children must list a license number to do so if they offer this service in their own home.



Computer Services

COMPUTERS SHOULDN'T BE frustrating or frightening. It'll come to you. Upgrades, troubleshooting, set-up, tutoring. Other electronics too. Call Monique (413)237-1035.

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BILL CAMERLIN. ADDITIONS, service changes, small jobs for homeowners, fire alarms. Fast, dependable, reasonable rates. Insured, free estimates. E280333. 24 hour emergency service. (413)427-5862.

DEPENDABLE ELECTRICIAN, FRIENDLY service, installs deicing cables. Free estimates. Fully insured. Scott Winters electrician Lic. #13514-B Call (413)244-7096.

ELECTRICAL WORK. NO job too large/ small. Residential/ Commercial. 33+ years experience. Senior Discounts. Free estimates. Insured. #31521E. Chris (413)575-0338.

ELECTRICIAN LICENSED AND insured. Free estimates. Fair prices. Fast and friendly service. All calls returned. Lic #10124-B. Please call Matt (413)439-3010.

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HEATING-AFFORDABLE, PROFESSIONAL repair & service on all brands, gas furnace, heat pump & mini split systems. Tony's Heating & Cooling Service (413)221-7073

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Free Estimates Competitive Rates Call Adam 413-374-7779

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1 Call for all your needs. Windows, siding, roofs, additions, decks, baths, hardwood floors, painting. All work 100% guaranteed. Licensed and insured. Call Bob (413)596-8807 Cell CS Lic. #97110, HIC Lic #162905

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HOME IMPROVEMENTS.

RE-MODELING. Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, textured ceilings, siding, additions. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. 413-246-2783 Ron. Member of the Home Builders Association of MA.

Home Improvement

WATER DAMAGE -CALL JAY (413)436-5782- FOR REPAIRS Complete Drywall Service. Finishing, Painting, Ceilings (Smooth or Textured). 38 years experience. Fully insured

Instruction

TRUCK DRIVERS NEEDED A & B CDL CLASSES + BUS Chicopee, Ma (413)592-1500 UNITED TRACTOR TRAILER SCHOOL Unitedcdl.com

Landscaping

****ALL SPRING, SUMMER, FALL**** Specializing in shrub trimming, tree pruning, landscape design, clean-ups, loam, stone, mulch deliveries. Also small front loader and backhoe service. Fully insured. Professional work. Please call Bob (413)538-7954, (413)537-5789.

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FORBES & SONS PAINTING & STAINING Interior ceiling/ drywall repairs, wallpaper removal. New construction. Free estimates. Owner operated since 1985. Affordable prices. Residential/ Commercial. Insured. www.westernmasspainting.com (413)887-1987

LAWSON PAINTING- INTERIOR, exterior painting, ceilings/ drywall repair. Gutter cleaning. Insured, references available. 20 yrs Experience. Free estimates (413)887-9354 Michael.

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BOGACZ & SON Mechanical LLC Plumbing, heating, gas piping, boilers, furnaces, water heaters, repairs. Free estimates. Fully insured. 25 yrs. Master Lic #15895 (413)519-3961.

GREG LAFOUNTAIN PLUMBING & Heating. Lic #19196 Repairs & Replacement of fixtures, water heater installations, steam/HW boiler replacement. Kitchen & Bath remodeling. 30 years experience. Fully insured. \$10. Gift Card With Work Performed. Call Greg (413)592-1505.

LINC'S PLUMBING LIC #J27222 Prevent Emergencies Now Call LINC'S For Your Connection (413)668-5299

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ALL TYPES OF ROOFING, shingle, flat and slate. Call Local Builders (413)626-5296. Complete roofing systems and repairs. Fully licensed and insured. MA CS #102453. Lifetime warranty. Senior Discount. 24 hour service.

SKY-TECH ROOFING, INC. 25 years experience. Commercial, residential. Insured. Shingles, single-ply systems. Tar/ gravel, slate repairs. 24 hour Emergency Repairs. (413)536-3279, (413)348-9568, (413)204-4841.

Snow Removal

24 HOUR SNOWPLOWING service, Palmer, Monson, Wilbraham, Hampden. Call now only a few openings left. (413)519-5439.

\$ Fill Out and Mail This Money Maker \$

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9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
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21 Base Price 24.50	22 Base Price 25.00	23 Base Price 25.50	24 Base Price 26.00
25 Base Price 26.50	26 Base Price 27.00	27 Base Price 27.50	28 Base Price 28.00
29 Base Price 28.50	30 Base Price 29.00	31 Base Price 29.50	32 Base Price 30.00
33 Base Price 30.50	34 Base Price 31.00	35 Base Price 31.50	36 Base Price 32.00
37 Base Price 32.50	38 Base Price 33.00	39 Base Price 33.50	40 Base Price 34.00

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Must include check.

Or call 413-283-7084 to place your ad.

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Circulation: 50,500



Suburban Residential

Circulation: 59,000

Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or the Suburban Residential ZONE for \$24.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for additional words. Add \$5 for a second ZONE.
First ZONE base price _____ includes additional words
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TOTAL enclosed _____
Did you remember to check your zone?

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Snow Removal

ART'S SNOW REMOVAL NOW accepting new accounts. On time friendly service. Driveways, walkways, lots, etc. Fully insured. Over 25 yrs experience. Art (413)536-0605.

SNOW PLOWING SERVICES Affordable, reliable and friendly. Accepting new customers. Residential and Commercial. Fully insured and equipped. Call George (413)348-4891.

Help Wanted

LOCAL MANUFACTURING COMPANY in Palmer, Ma is accepting resumes for Wire EDM Working Lead/ Department Manager position.

Job Purpose:

The Wire EDM Manager will manage EDM department for in-house tooling and support other divisions EDM projects.

Duties:

Programming and Supervision of the wire EDM department. Development of tooling for manufacturing processes. Maintain wire EDM equipment.

Qualifications:

Must be proficient in the following: CAD/CAM (AutoCAD a plus) Minimum of 5 years Wire EDM programming and operation experience (4 axis programming a plus)

Reading of Engineering Prints (GD&T)

Strong computer skills

Manufacturing or Machining background a plus

Global Shop familiarity a plus

Please send resumes to kgoodrow@profiles-inc.com as well as PO Box 850 Palmer, Ma 01069

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KAYE BOOTHMAN 413-477-6624
JILL GRAVEL 413-364-7353

HISTORIC HOME PALMER Live "mortgage free" in this vintage home by renting out the upstairs! Central Palmer location with easy access to stores, Post Office, churches, etc. Many upgrades. Has nice, wraparound porch. Will sell "as-is". Reduced! No \$130,000. Call (413)283-4913.



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NORTH BROOKFIELD: Winding drive leads to custom ranch on 12+ acres, beautiful landscaping, three bedrooms, A/C, many upgraded features. \$419,900

PALMER: Three bedroom two bath cape handy to Pike and major routes, farmers porch, large living room with fireplace, nice place to come home to. \$209,900

WARREN: Young three bedroom colonial, wooded country setting, open floor plan, fireplaced living room. Close to Pike for commuters. \$204,000

WARREN: Investors take notice, Handyman Special! 2 bedrooms, spacious rooms, wood floors, screened in porch with metal room. Being sold "As Is." \$87,900

WARE: Check out this investment property, two rentals plus a 6 car garage, one unit has 3 season room. Surprising property that must be seen. \$179,000

Dorrinda O'Keefe-Shea 978-434-1990
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Ruth Vadnais 413-348-8916
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Shalene Friedhaber 413-593-6656
Mary Hicks 508-612-4794
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Christy Toppin 508-341-8934
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Kathy Hosley 508-596-0209
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Real Estate



Mobile Homes

WALES, 1985, 26'X48', 2 bedroom, 2 bath, central air, gas fireplace, new windows, 55+ country park. 413-593-9961 DASAP.MHILLAGE.COM

For Rent

3 1/2 ROOMS 1 bathroom apartment. Utilities not included, no pets. \$500 a month. **583-6089.**



ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

BELCHERTOWN - 1 MONTH FREE, LARGE, MODERN 2 bedroom apt. on bus route, w/w carpeting, large yard, laundry on premises, off-street parking in plowed lot, appliances. \$775/mo (413)323-1119 (413)537-7080

CHICOPEE - 2 Bedroom Apartment for rent. Heat and Hot Water included in rent of \$800.00. Call 413-533-5000 or 413-237-7196.

FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and/or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

GRANBY MA - 2 Br Apt. \$850 per month includes heat and hot water! Excellent suburban location. Coin laundry and storage. First, Last and Sec. No pets. Must have good credit. **413-566-5837**

LUDLOW 181 STATE St. 2 BR apt. stove & fridge. No pets. W/D hook-up. \$700/mo First, Last, Security (413)315-0368

LUDLOW 181 STATE St. 3 BR apt. stove & fridge. No pets. W/D hook-up. \$800/mo First, Last, Security (413)315-0368

MONSON. 3 BEDROOM. Completely renovated, propane heat, lower than oil, \$100 toward first fill-up. **NO PETS!!!** \$900/mo. F/L/S (413)783-0192. Mr. Allen.

For Rent

ONE BEDROOM APT. near Mt. Holyoke College. Appliances, washer, dryer included, large yard, mountain view. Great neighborhood. Call Elizabeth 413-575-0067.

PALMER 1BR - Quiet Secure Country Location. Locked Storage & Laundry in Basement. K/DR Combo - LR-Full Bath. Nice Layout. No Smok/Pets. 1st/last/sec. \$700.00 Breton Est. 413-283-6940

PALMER'S NEWEST LUXURY apts, 1 and 2 bedrooms, large living room, spacious bedrooms w/w. Fringe, range, oak cabinets, off street parking, security lights, tenants laundry. 1-413-283-8673.

Commercial Rentals

GRANBY ROUTE 202, Business zoned 600 sq. ft garage/ storage, overhead & walkthrough doors, \$400. Available January 1st. (413)427-4638.

INDUSTRIAL ZONED. FOUR buildings available, 500 to 5,000 sq.ft. Breckenridge St., Palmer. Also entertain offers for sale 10 acres (413)231-3131.

Vacation Rentals

WARM WEATHER IS year round in Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. \$3500. Email: carolaction@aol.com for more information.

Auto For Sale

'92 BUICK ROADMASTER, good condition, leather seats, a/c, less than 130K miles, well maintained. No rust. Have title. \$3,000 or B/O. (413)283-5151

Autos Wanted

\$\$\$ AUTOS WANTED TOP Dollar paid for your unwanted cars, trucks, vans, big and small, running or not. Call 413-534-5400.

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Business Opp.

LIQUOR STORE FOR sale. Established location, 30 yrs. Full license, turn key opportunity. Over \$600K Merchandise, \$150K lottery in sales. 2,000 sq.ft leased store in Westfield. \$185K plus inventory separate. Call (413)267-0497.

Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote "free" events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Friday, Dec. 5

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL'S APPLAUSE SERIES ends its 2014 season tonight at 7 p.m. when Dan Kane & Friends perform a concert of Christmas favorites and American standards at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. This and all Applause Series events are free and open to the public.

FITNESS FIRST HEALTH & FITNESS CENTER, 60 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, will host a blood drive sponsored by Mercy Medical Center from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. A driver's license with photo or state identification with photo is required. All donors should eat at least two to three hours prior to donating, weigh at least 110 pounds and must be 18 years or older. To make an appointment, call 413-786-1460.

THE SPRINGFIELD SCIENCE MUSEUM'S rooftop telescope will be open for public sky-gazing at 7:30 p.m., rain or shine. Admission is \$3 for adults; \$2 for children 17 and under. The museum is located at the Quadrangle at 21 Edwards St., off Chestnut St. Free parking available in the Edwards St. lots. For more information, call 413-263-6800, ext. 318.

Saturday, Dec. 6

SANTA CLAUS WILL BE STOPPING BY WITH MRS. CLAUS at Heritage Woods Senior Living from 10 a.m. to noon. Children can take a picture with Santa and enjoy treats and activities. For more info or to RSVP, call 413-789-8332 or email Nicole.wallace@geneshcc.com.

A CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, 1552 Westfield St., West Springfield from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch will be available from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WESTFIELD STATE UNIVERSITY will host "Breakfast with Santa" at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. in Scanlon Banquet Hall. Tickets are \$7 for children; \$9 for adults. Children 3 and under can attend for free, but will not receive a gift from Santa or a seat without a ticket. Tickets will be sold online at www.westfield.ma.edu/tickets. Snow date, Sunday, Dec. 7.

Sunday, Dec. 7

THE GFWC AGAWAM JUNIOR WOMEN'S CLUB will host its annual "Breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus" from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Roberta G. Doering Middle School, 68 Main St., Agawam. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. The Agawam Family & Community Program will also offer free books and a story walk. Snow date is Dec. 14.

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS will host a "mini tour" at 1 p.m., led by Richard O'Brien, DMFA, highlighting "Let it Snow: Winter Scenes in Japanese Prints." The tour is free with museum admission and secure, free onsite parking is available.

AFFINITY BRASS, OF THE NEW YORK CITY chamber music scene, will perform at the Music on High Performing Arts Concert Series at First Church of Christ, Congregational, 81 High St., Suffield, Conn., at 4 p.m. Suggested donation, \$20; \$15 for seniors students and church members.

Wednesday, Dec. 10

THE AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL and the Washington D.C. Club will host a Holiday Vendor and Crafts Night from 6 to 9 p.m. in the school's cafeteria. Nearly 30 vendors will offer a wide variety of holiday crafts, edible delights, raffles prizes and everyday items that make perfect gifts for the holidays.

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of \$7 for adults, \$4 for children.

NOONTIME CONCERT at South Congregational Church, 45 Maple St., Springfield featuring Kimberly Figuero on flute and Larry Picard, organist and pianist. Free will donation. For information, call 413-732-0117 or email lpicard@sococh.org.

Thursday, Dec. 11

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRAN-

GLE will present "From Circuses to Shanty Towns: Turning Fact into Historical Fiction," featuring M.P. Barker, author and historical consultant, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts, at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call 413-263-6800, ext. 488.

Saturday, Dec. 13

A HOLIDAY BAZAAR will take place at Community Granger 382, 47 N. West St., Feeding Hills and will include a bake sale. All proceeds will benefit the building fund. Snow date, Dec. 14

Sunday, Dec. 14

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER, 1590 Sumner Ave., Springfield, will present "On Stage Live – The Christmas Family" at 6 p.m. Admission is free. Nursery care provided up to 2 years old. For more information, call 413-782-7171.

Wednesday, Dec. 17

DONATIONS OF UNWRAPPED TOYS to support the Toys for Tots program will be accepted at ceremonies held from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Agawam Town Hall. There will also be a Toys for Tots drop-off box at town hall in the lobby during working hours

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER, 1590 Sumner Ave., Springfield, will present "On Stage Live – The Christmas Family" at 6 p.m. Admission is free. Nursery care provided up to 2 years old. For more information, call 413-782-7171.

Tuesday, Feb. 3

THE TUESDAY MORNING MUSIC CONCERTS at Trinity United Methodist Church in Springfield will feature Diane Lipari, soprano, Kimberly Figueroa on flute and Miguel Campinho on piano, at 10:30 a.m. Free refreshments. For more information, contact Yolanda Martin, 25 Valentine St., Springfield or John Karalekas, TMMC president, Trinity United Methodist Church, 361 Sumner Ave., Springfield 01138.

Sunday, Dec. 21

A COMMUNITY LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE and Christmas Carol Sing-Along will take place at 5 p.m. at Agawam Veterans Green. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served.

ONGOING

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library. No registration needed.

THE LADIES GLEE CLUB AND MEN'S CHOIR at the Springfield Turnverein are back to work. Practice is held every Wednesday with the ladies beginning at 7 p.m. followed by the men at 8:30 p.m. All are welcome. There is space available for anyone interested in joining.

A BLOOD CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets the fourth Tuesday of each month, 6 to 7:30 p.m., Agawam Senior Center conference room. A light dinner is served. For more information or to register, call (413) 789-0200, visit www.springfieldmed.com, or email survivorshipprogram@gmail.com.

A BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, 6 to 7:15 p.m. at office of Maryann Paleologopoulos LICSW, Inc., 2 South Bridge Drive, Suite 1B, Agawam (at the rotary). Refreshments served. For more information or to register, call (413) 789-0200, visit www.springfieldmed.com, or email survivorshipprogram@gmail.com.

THE AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH FAMILY PLAYGROUP, which takes place at the church at 745 Main St., Agawam, is open to children birth through age 5 with a parent or caregiver and meets weekly on Thursdays from 9:30-11 a.m. It includes crafts, stories, songs, free play and more. For more information, call 786-7111 or email jbrownacc@verizon.net.

A CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP meets the third Thursday of each month, 6 to 7:30 p.m., at the office of Maryann Paleologopoulos LICSW, Inc., 2 South Bridge Drive, Suite 1B, Agawam (at the rotary). Refreshments served. For more information or to register, call (413) 789-0200, visit www.springfieldmed.com, or email survivorshipprogram@gmail.com.

YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR CAMPER may be worth more as a donation than a trade-in. Call the Massachusetts Association for the Blind at (888) 613-2777 for more information. Towing is free. All donations are tax deductible.



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Doering students, faculty warm up to Turkey Trot

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications Correspondent

Using a tradition he created in Southwick, new Roberta Doering School Vice Principal Chad Joyal brought the Turkey Trot to his new school.

The new Thanksgiving tradition occurred on Nov. 25, two days before the holiday. More than 250 fifth and sixth grade students at the school participated in the one-mile run/walk, which serves as a way to increase school spirit, have a fitness activity, and collect canned goods that can be donated to the local food pantry.

"This is not as much about the competition, but more about having school spirit and just coming out and having a good time," said Joyal.

Joyal is a fan of running and being outdoors. However, the race itself is for fun. Every person who took part in the race received a prize, and the male and female winners both received a frozen turkey. The turkeys were provided by Stop & Shop.

Joshua Privedenyuk, 11, was the overall winner of the race with a time of 6:11. He enjoyed the race and was glad to have done it with so many of his classmates.

"It felt great to win the first one," said Privedenyuk. "I really like to run so that was fun, too."

The female winner was Kimberly Beaver, 11. She came in a close second overall behind Privedenyuk, at 6:15, and nearly defeated him.

Beaver said the race was fun and also is a great help to the kids that are required to run the mile in their physical education class.

"This was great practice for me and it was a lot of fun doing it with everyone else," said Beaver.

As is tradition with the Turkey Trot races, Joyal ran in the race himself, taking fourth overall, as well as several other faculty members at the school.

"It's a lot of fun to run with the kids," said Joyal. "The kids see their teachers doing it and they want to join in, too."

Joyal transplanted from Powder Mill Mid-



Kimberly Beaver, 11, places second overall and is the female winner at 6:15.



Turley Publications photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

The racers are off!



Runners makes their way around the quarter-mile mark.



Joshua Privedenyuk, 11, crosses the finish line first at 6:11.



Roberta Doering School Vice Principal Chad Joyal greets runners as they cross the finish line.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF SPRINGFIELD

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www.sbgc.org/festival-of-trees